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MEETING

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD

MARKET DEVELOPMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

JOE SERNA, JR., CAL/EPA BUILDING

1001 I STREET

2ND FLOOR

COASTAL HEARING ROOM

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2009

10:00 A.M.

TIFFANY C. KRAFT, CSR, RPR CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER LICENSE NUMBER 12277

PETERS SHORTHAND REPORTING CORPORATION (916) 362-2345

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APPEARANCES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ms. Margo Reid Brown, Chair

Mr. John Laird

Ms. Carole Migden

BOARD MEMBER ALSO PRESENT

Ms. Rosalie Mul

STAFF

Mr. Mark Leary, Executive Director

Mr. Elliot Block, Staff Counsel

Ms. Kristen Garner, Executive Assistant

 $\operatorname{Mr.}$ Howard Levenson, Deputy Director, Sustainability $\operatorname{Program}$

Ms. Marissa Luna, Staff

Ms. Shirley Willd-Wanger, Division Chief, Financial Assistance Division

ALSO PRESENT

Mr. Michael Blumenthal, Rubber Manufactures Association

Mr. Terry Leveille, TL & Associates

Mr. Cameron Wright, West Coast Rubber Recycling

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- 2 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: Good morning. Welcome to the
- 3 Wednesday, March 18th, meeting of the Market Development
- 4 and Sustainability Committee.
- 5 There are agendas in the back of the room.
- 6 And if anyone would like to speak to the item
- 7 today, there are speaker slips. And please fill them out
- 8 and bring them to Kristen.
- 9 I'll ask Kristen to please call the roll.
- 10 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT GARNER: Laird?
- 11 COMMITTEE MEMBER LAIRD: Here.
- 12 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT GARNER: Migden?
- 13 COMMITTEE MEMBER MIGDEN: Here.
- 14 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT GARNER: Brown?
- 15 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: Here.
- Any members have any ex partes to report?
- 17 And I'd like to thank Member Mulé, and welcome.
- 18 BOARD MEMBER MULÉ: Thank you.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: Thank you for joining us.
- 20 Howard, I assume there's no Director's report, or
- 21 is there today? No. No Director's report.
- 22 So we'll go straight into Committee Item B.
- 23 Howard.
- 24 SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Thank
- 25 you, Madam Chair. Good morning, Board members.

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- 1 Howard Levenson with the Sustainability Program.
- 2 And the only item on the agenda today is
- 3 consideration of the grant awards for the Tire-Derived
- 4 Product Grant Program. And I request to conditionally
- 5 cancel next year's cycle, depending on what you do today.
- 6 This is a relatively straight forward item. We
- 7 are simply asking the Board in one sense to approve
- 8 funding for one of our most popular tire grant programs.
- 9 But we're also asking you to take advantage of
- 10 the unique circumstances of the budget. We're asking you
- 11 to take advantage of the unique circumstance of the fiscal
- 12 09-10 budget, the fact it's already been passed and we
- 13 know what funding is available beginning July 1st.
- 14 Because the program is so oversubscribed this
- 15 year, as described in the item -- we have over \$6 million
- 16 in eligible applications, but only \$2 million in fiscal
- 17 08-09 funding available -- we're proposing that we fund
- 18 most or all of the eligible applicants in this cycle by
- 19 doing three things:
- One is to approve today's awards, which total \$2
- 21 million. That will use the fiscal 08-09 funds.
- Then in April, when we bring you the annual tire
- 23 fund reallocation item, we would propose allocating some
- 24 of the funds from that to fund some of the eligible
- 25 applicants from this list.

- 1 And then in May, after you adopt the Five-Year
- 2 Tire Plan, we would propose we use the \$3.3 million that
- 3 are allocated for the Tire-Derived Grant Program next
- 4 year, use to fund the rest of the eligible applicants this
- 5 year. So we get over \$6 million out on the street
- 6 relatively quickly. We'd have to wait until July to do
- 7 the last part. But to be able to fund almost all of the
- 8 applicants who are eligible in this current cycle.
- 9 The downside of that is there would be no funding
- 10 left in 09-10 for a new cycle. So we ask that you
- 11 conditionally cancel the 09-10 cycle in order to fund the
- 12 applicants this year.
- 13 So I can explain that in more detail. That's
- 14 sort of the setting for what we're trying to do this year.
- 15 And I would like to turn it over to Marissa to
- 16 give you the presentation on the \$2 million and the awards
- 17 we're asking you to consider today.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: We are going to have
- 19 questions and concerns. But do you want to do the
- 20 presentation first, and then we'll ask our questions about
- 21 all of what you presented and this allocation?
- 22 (Thereupon an overhead presentation was
- presented as follows.)
- 24 MS. LUNA: Good morning. For the record, my name
- 25 is Marissa Luna from the Financial Assistance Division.

- 1 Before I present the recommendations of grant
- 2 awards for fiscal year 2008-09, I'd like to share with you
- 3 some of the results of the 2008 tire-derived product
- 4 satisfaction survey.
- 5 Post-grant term annual surveys are required by
- 6 this grant program to help assess the grantees' long-term
- 7 satisfaction of the tire-derived products funded by this
- 8 grant. The grantee must complete and submit an annual
- 9 survey for the tire-derived product grant program every
- 10 year for five years after the grant closes.
- 11 --00o--
- 12 MS. LUNA: We ask grantees, how satisfied are you
- 13 with the tire-derived product? Fifty-two percent said
- 14 they are very satisfied, and 31 percent said they are
- 15 satisfied.
- 16 --00o--
- 17 MS. LUNA: We also ask grantees if their
- 18 organization purchased other tire-derived products using
- 19 their own funds. Thirty-two percent said they purchase
- 20 products on their own. Of those that have not purchased
- 21 products with their own funds, 21 percent said they plan
- 22 to in the near future.
- --000--
- MS. LUNA: Thirty-three percent of grantees
- 25 reported that injuries have decreased as a result of the

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- 1 tire-derived product, and no one reported an increase in
- 2 injuries.
- 3 Now I'll continue with the award recommendation
- 4 for fiscal year 2008-09.
- 5 --000--
- 6 MS. LUNA: The Tire-Derived Product Grant Program
- 7 offers funds for the purchase of tire-derived products
- 8 made from California waste tires. Eligible applicants
- 9 include certain public entities, low-income, nonprofit,
- 10 private schools, and California community housing
- 11 development organization.
- 12 All projects must be located in California and
- 13 must divert a minimum of 25 California waste tires.
- 14 --00o--
- 15 MS. LUNA: This fiscal year, the Five-Year Plan
- 16 for the Waste Tire Recycling Management Program allocated
- 17 \$2 million to this grant program. Grantees will receive
- 18 the actual cost per tire diverted by their project up to a
- 19 maximum of five dollars per tire.
- The maximum grant award is 150,000 per applicant
- 21 with the exception of large school districts defined as
- 22 those with 43,000 or more students, which are eligible for
- 23 \$250,000.
- 24 --000--
- MS. LUNA: We received 91 applications by the due

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- 1 date. Twenty-three were disqualified, and one applicant
- 2 withdrew.
- 3 Since the grant program was oversubscribed, we
- 4 held a random selection process in accordance with the
- 5 Board-approved policy to determine funding order.
- 6 Sixty-seven applicants were eligible to participate in the
- 7 random selection process on February 17th.
- 8 Applicants were then sorted by funding number and
- 9 geographic location.
- 10 As a result, from southern California, 12
- 11 applicants are recommended for full funding and one for
- 12 partial funding. And from northern California, eight
- 13 applicants are recommended for full funding and one for
- 14 partial funding, totaling \$2 million.
- 15 --000--
- MS. LUNA: Besides what we're recommending for
- 17 funding today, staff is also suggesting a new funding
- 18 approach for the 45 remaining unfunded applicants and the
- 19 remainder of the one partially funded southern applicant
- 20 and the one partially funded northern California, totaling
- 21 \$4,098,272.
- 22 As explained in detailed in the agenda item,
- 23 there are many reasons why this approach provides
- 24 significant benefits, including economic incentive, staff
- 25 focus on grantees, and program evaluation, to name a few.

- 1 In order to accomplish this, first, staff will
- 2 request funds from the tire reallocation item in April
- 3 2009.
- 4 Second, staff will request through an agenda item
- 5 in May 2009 to fund most or all of the remaining unfunded
- 6 applicants with next fiscal year's 2009-10 Tire-Derived
- 7 Product Grant Program allocation.
- 8 This proposal does involve many conditions, which
- 9 include staff determination that the proposed grant
- 10 project is still viable in fiscal year 2009-10. Since all
- 11 of the 09-10 funds would be used, staff proposes that the
- 12 Board conditionally cancel the Tire-Derived Product Grant
- 13 Program solicitation for fiscal year 2009-10.
- 14 --000--
- MS. LUNA: Staff recommends Option 1, that the
- 16 Board approve the proposed grant awards for Tire-Derived
- 17 Product Grant Program and direct staff to enter into grant
- 18 agreements with the awarded applicants and conditionally
- 19 approve cancellation of the Tire-Derived Product Grant
- 20 Program solicitation for fiscal year 2009-10 and adopt
- 21 Resolution Number 2009-42.
- 22 This concludes my presentation. And I'd be happy
- 23 to answer any questions. Thank you.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: Thank you, Marissa.
- We do have some questions.

- 1 Carole.
- 2 COMMITTEE MEMBER MIGDEN: Good morning. I guess
- 3 having reviewed the recommendations -- and it's terrific
- 4 that the program is sought after and that there's a
- 5 surfeit of applications from all over.
- 6 But one thing I wanted to look at, which was the
- 7 definitions of how we define north and south. And central
- 8 valley is plunked entirely in the north.
- 9 And geographically -- so I'm not sure if this is,
- 10 you know, under the executive director, our attorneys.
- 11 But as a general matter, conceptually I think it's fair to
- 12 at least divide them or figure it out therein, because I'm
- 13 looking ahead at Tier 2 applications, not that much this
- 14 morning. I think most this morning, you know, squarely
- 15 would be northern.
- So one would be to look at -- and most
- 17 particularly if we're looking at some kind of roll over
- 18 that will deplete this fund for two years and again
- 19 whether some is today, tomorrow, the next day and how we
- 20 reappropriate, or next month, it's all to me to be
- 21 considered in the aggregate of when we roll out.
- 22 The second thing I find very distressing is there
- 23 are no -- with the exception of a little bit of Fremont,
- 24 there are no Bay Area grants being proposed in any of the
- 25 three cycles. And I don't know if they weren't rigorous

- 1 enough or, you know, what all that's about.
- But, you know, squarely and I shall say this,
- 3 we're statewide. I am Bay Arean, and I would like to see
- 4 good works and opportunities.
- 5 And to look at the second -- for instance, you
- 6 know, I just wanted to direct member's attention. Where's
- 7 the second tier?
- 8 So what we're looking at, for instance, in the
- 9 second tier, you know, Stanislaus County. And I think is
- 10 that Shafter near the second -- is it Shafter or Shafer
- 11 Unified School District? That's near Bakersfield I
- 12 believe; right?
- 13 You know, city of Fresno, I don't know anyone
- 14 considers the city of Fresno northern California. It
- 15 simply is not.
- 16 So if we want to look at -- and then I'm being
- 17 aware and I think it's totally -- I do support the idea
- 18 that the bulk goes to the southern part of the state. I
- 19 appreciate that. And to just look at fair well-rounded
- 20 applications. It's about a 60/40 split or 61 -- I don't
- 21 mind that. But I kind of do if the 39 percent includes
- 22 majority of central valley, because then that's being
- 23 considered a northern split.
- 24 So let me just say this, that I would like to
- 25 know what the reason is therein. But I would not just

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- 1 want to advocate here San Francisco. I'm saying if it's
- 2 Contra Costa I would be happy, or some other parts.
- 3 But moreover, are we geographically addressing up
- 4 and down the state? Because even if we are -- I'm looking
- 5 at Palmdale and this and that and certain valley programs
- 6 in L.A. I'm not seeing much in L.A. proper, which is the
- 7 heart of the population of the county of Los Angeles. So
- 8 that also makes me uneasy.
- 9 And I think that so one is, you know, did we
- 10 outreach? Did they produce lousy applications? What are
- 11 the reasons therein?
- 12 And I just want to say one thing lastly, Madam
- 13 Chair. You know, I remember in the Legislature one time
- 14 for certain school moneys L.A. failed to apply, and we
- 15 still had to give them two-thirds of the money with no
- 16 application, because we couldn't leave the school kids
- 17 bereft.
- 18 So it isn't always to me who's the best
- 19 applicant, because some people are swifter or others are
- 20 better at that. And it's still therefore the
- 21 responsibility I think of this body to, A, either help if
- 22 there is a deficiency of applications. Two, within the
- 23 structure of what we consider the counties, let's look at
- 24 revamping that. And I might be disagreed with. Thirdly,
- 25 even within the agreed-upon areas of what constitutes

- 1 north and south, are we at least having some geographic
- 2 targets that if some places or some parts of the state are
- 3 underperforming, are we trying to bring them along in
- 4 future years?
- 5 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: I think that you have
- 6 multiple questions that, Howard, you can start to address
- 7 the geographic split and how that's determined.
- 8 I think one of the concerns is there's 23
- 9 applications disqualified. Are those applications that
- 10 maybe are target areas that we want to look at what the
- 11 disqualification is. Because I think what Member Migden
- 12 raises is a concern I had as well is if we don't fund
- 13 09-10, would those 23 applications have wanted to come
- 14 back in that cycle? And this is always oversubscribed.
- 15 So let's start with geographic split, and then we
- 16 can move on from there.
- 17 COMMITTEE MEMBER MIGDEN: Thank you, Madam Chair.
- 18 SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Well,
- 19 first of all, let me say there has been a lot of outreach
- 20 all around the state through various list serves, various
- 21 meetings, and so on.
- 22 Historically, we have funded a lot of Bay Area
- 23 grants. Not in this cycle perhaps, but historically there
- 24 have been a lot of grants to local jurisdictions in that
- 25 area.

- 1 The geographic distribution I'm going to turn
- 2 over to Shirley, but that is something the Board discussed
- 3 and adopted as a policy a number of years ago. I don't
- 4 remember exactly what year. It was a Board policy that
- 5 has been incorporated into various grants to have that
- 6 split. And there was a specific definition of northern
- 7 and southern California.
- 8 And I certainly appreciate Member Migden's
- 9 comment that this northern California includes central
- 10 valley. It may be something the Board may wish to
- 11 reconsider in the future. But we were following the
- 12 Board-approved policy on that issue. So that's why you
- 13 see that distribution proposed that way.
- 14 In terms of the 23 applicants who were
- 15 disqualified -- and Marissa can give you a rundown on
- 16 that -- it's true there could be some applicants who would
- 17 come in next year if we had funding with a new
- 18 application. On the other hand, we have 45 who are
- 19 eligible and are ready. So they also would have to
- 20 re-submit applications. We'd have to do a whole other
- 21 cycle. So in terms of the administrative burden on those
- 22 jurisdictions as well as on staff, it would not be very
- 23 efficient.
- 24 But we understand your concerns. We just feel
- 25 this is an opportunity for the Board to consider getting

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1 additional moneys out on the street sooner. But it --

- 2 COMMITTEE MEMBER MIGDEN: May I?
- 3 That's fine. But that's not the answer.
- 4 Were there applicants from the Bay Area or other
- 5 places turned down? You know, I'm just saying in general.
- I would like to ask the attorney what do I do
- 7 about it? If it's something we bring up at the next
- 8 meeting, I'll do that. I do want to look in advance of
- 9 geographics, period.
- 10 And, secondly, I don't want to admonish you
- 11 weren't following the lines. I get that. That's not a
- 12 helpful explanation for me, Howard. I know that.
- 13 What I want to hear is well, yeah, we do look at
- 14 the entire state. Over five years, we've touched as much
- 15 as we can. Or we didn't.
- Or secondly, you know, here even coming forward,
- 17 sir, I would just say to you I wouldn't want to have no
- 18 real northern part of the state stuff and what happened.
- 19 That's an anticipated question I guess about 23 that
- 20 didn't have muster. Or were they from the area I thought?
- 21 How bad off were they? Were they lousy?
- 22 But then I would think we would want to get in
- 23 there and say this almost made the lines. But it's the
- 24 only one from over here, so let's boost them over here and
- 25 see if we can.

- 1 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: Let's have Marissa answer the
- 2 question on the 23 that were disqualified. Are there Bay
- 3 Area ones? Are there applications --
- 4 MS. LUNA: Yes. I don't have the list with me.
- 5 But off the top of my head, I can think of two from the
- 6 Bay Area that were disqualified for an incomplete
- 7 application.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: What does that mean?
- 9 MS. LUNA: That means that they didn't have all
- 10 the required documentation in by the due date. So we do
- 11 offer a secondary deadline date to get your
- 12 environmentally preferable purchases policy adopted and
- 13 your resolution.
- 14 So we have the first due date, which was October
- 15 1st. And then we had a secondary due date to get those
- 16 two additional items in. These applicants failed to do
- 17 that. So their board did not adopt a resolution in time
- 18 which authorizes them to apply for the program.
- 19 But we have funded Bay Area applicants in the
- 20 past. I can think of city of San Francisco is doing a
- 21 project right now that I know of.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: So it's possible, since we
- 23 have oversubscribed and funded all of the applicants over
- 24 the last couple years. And you just will need the
- 25 information by Tuesday we have funded Bay Area and maybe

- 1 they're in the cycle of doing the work. And it's
- 2 just they're not ready to do another.
- 3 COMMITTEE MEMBER MIGDEN: And I want to just be
- 4 clear. I'm bringing up the Bay Area, because it was
- 5 startling to me, because I live there.
- 6 I'm asking the question even broader, which is
- 7 are we geographically meeting targets? I really don't
- 8 want to go, "Migden didn't get SF, and she's on a
- 9 rampage."
- 10 I do want to see what we're doing in this city,
- 11 of course, and other things. I'm just saying as part of
- 12 just our look, and if it's two year -- excuse me a
- 13 second -- I want to be especially clear. Yes, I want to
- 14 know that.
- 15 But I also want to know are we reaching out to
- 16 underperforming areas? Are we taking an extra step? And
- 17 I appreciate that may or may not be your job exactly. But
- 18 then this Board may say, well, to the extent -- because it
- 19 follows suit. Sometimes people don't have the capability.
- 20 Those in the underperforming areas, they're the poor areas
- 21 that are not doing and their applications weren't as good.
- 22 It's the same thing getting into an ivy league school.
- 23 So I'm asking that also broadly for a look. And
- 24 that at least would be part of my consideration, because
- 25 these are goodies. And these are over prescribed. And

- 1 thank goodness we have something to offer cities now. And
- 2 they're presents and good things. You see, for me, I want
- 3 to have that broader look.
- 4 And also lastly, the last thing I look at is kind
- 5 of, you know, the mask of the 78 or 77. There are other
- 6 aspects of, you know, how did they do? Again, I don't
- 7 want any pressure. If something is no good, don't think
- 8 you're pushing it up because Migden will be happy it's in
- 9 San Francisco. If it's no good, it's no good. But at
- 10 least we say, we're not taking it over the next two, three
- 11 years. We're going to go in there with a team, try to fix
- 12 up that application process for that county, and see
- 13 what's wrong there.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: We do have -- I think you're
- 15 going to -- John is going to ask a question.
- 16 COMMITTEE MEMBER LAIRD: First, I just want to
- 17 ask the question clearly.
- 18 Is the dividing line set by statute? Or is the
- 19 dividing line a policy? Or just how is the north/south
- 20 dividing line set?
- 21 BRANCH MANAGER WILLD-WAGNER: For the record, I'm
- 22 Shirley Willd-Wanger, Division Chief of the Financial
- 23 Assistance Division.
- And the north/south split was not set in statute.
- 25 It was set by Board policy in 2001. This was established

- 1 for all Board funding of all grants. Any grant that comes
- 2 forward that does not follow the Board policy of the
- 3 north/south split has to specifically request an exemption
- 4 from that north/south split.
- 5 The population is looked at each year. So those
- 6 counties, that line, is divided there. But then what we
- 7 do is look at the Department of Finance numbers of the
- 8 population. And so 61 percent of the population of the
- 9 whole state of California right now is below that line.
- 10 Doesn't matter where in a way -- wherever that line is
- 11 set, we look at the population figures below that line and
- 12 above that line.
- 13 So right now, 61 percent of the population lives
- 14 below this line. Thirty-nine percent lives above the
- 15 line. So 39 percent of the grant dollars are allocated to
- 16 the northern California.
- 17 COMMITTEE MEMBER LAIRD: If we by policy were to
- 18 move the line, we would change the percents? And so we
- 19 would still just be working to the percents with a
- 20 different line?
- 21 BRANCH MANAGER WILLD-WAGNER: Still working to
- 22 those percents.
- 23 COMMITTEE MEMBER LAIRD: I'm aware just from
- 24 having dealt with -- and I don't know if it's the
- 25 Department of Water Resources or the Water Resources

- 1 Control Board. There's a very similar policy. They just
- 2 draw the line in a different place. My recollection is
- 3 it's either at the south or the north of San Luis Obispo
- 4 County and bisecting the state to the east, and that's
- 5 their north/south divide.
- 6 What you're basically saying is, is if we wish to
- 7 reconsider the policy at some point, we just could. We
- 8 would have to split by percentage, unless there was an
- 9 exemption in how we gave the grants.
- 10 BRANCH MANAGER WILLD-WAGNER: That's correct.
- 11 And we would probably prefer to do that in an item that
- 12 would apply to all grants.
- 13 COMMITTEE MEMBER LAIRD: One other thing. I had
- 14 a couple more questions.
- But, first, it might be just a little more
- 16 helpful if on these applicants it also could just be
- 17 listed what county they're from. Because while I know
- 18 that Lemoore is in Kings and Byron is in Contra Costa and
- 19 Livermore in is Alameda, I don't have a clue where
- 20 Thermalito School District is and where some of these
- 21 others are. And it might just give us a better idea what
- 22 the spread is and where those are.
- BRANCH MANAGER WILLD-WAGNER: We can do that.
- 24 COMMITTEE MEMBER LAIRD: And just one concern and
- 25 then one question.

- 1 In response to Carole's question, there was an
- 2 indication that some people hadn't met the requirements
- 3 for the application. And this came up at a previous
- 4 meeting, and I just have the ongoing concern that we end
- 5 up funding who's best at the application process rather
- 6 than who might actually have the need. And just so that
- 7 we can make sure that the obstacles that we put up are not
- 8 really skewing where it goes.
- 9 But the question I had relates to exactly what we
- 10 were talking about in the Committee hearing on Monday.
- 11 How much of the money from these grants comes back at the
- 12 end of the cycle?
- 13 BRANCH MANAGER WILLD-WAGNER: Marissa brought
- 14 some of that information; right?
- 15 I will mention, while she's looking that up, the
- 16 tire-derived product grant along with a couple other
- 17 grants programs isn't so much a scoring of one project
- 18 against another. This is simply an application, do you
- 19 meet these minimum qualifications? Are you eligible? Are
- 20 you diverting the proper amount of tires? And they're put
- 21 into the random selection process. That's been an ongoing
- 22 concern don't want to fund the best grant writers. We
- 23 want to fund where the need is.
- In our scoring grant programs, we usually have
- 25 the highest number of points allocated to the need in the

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1 local jurisdiction. That's how we try to focus on the

- 2 need versus the slickness of the application.
- 3 These cases, it's not a scoring process. So it's
- 4 not whether one did better than the other. It's as long
- 5 as you pass the minimum qualifications, then you're put
- 6 into the random selection.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: And the EPP policy is one
- 8 that the Board has long held as a priority for supporting
- 9 the policies and mission of this organization.
- 10 So, you know, it's been long important to this
- 11 Board. Prior to my arrival, I know previous Board members
- 12 have been very, very strongly advocating that each
- 13 applicant has to have an EPP policy in place.
- 14 And then the resolution by the Board is necessary
- 15 for us to be able to fund them. So I think there is a
- 16 couple of tools, and they're well aware of the processes
- 17 they go through. So I agree with you --
- 18 COMMITTEE MEMBER LAIRD: I appreciate both
- 19 responses.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: -- we want to make sure that
- 21 we do fund the best applicants, the best projects, and
- 22 those that are going to move forward. And we don't want
- 23 the disqualify them for something minor. But anyway.
- 24 COMMITTEE MEMBER LAIRD: Thank you. I appreciate
- 25 both those responses.

- 1 And then on the issue of how much comes back?
- 2 MS. LUNA: Well, the first cycle of this program
- 3 actually just closed out last year. And about 34 percent
- 4 of the grantees that were funded had to withdraw.
- 5 And the reason stated was just lack of funding on
- 6 their part, because this grant only pays for the tire
- 7 material used in the project. So they have to pick up any
- 8 costs that involve labor or equipment rental. And they
- 9 didn't have the funds by the end of the grant term to do
- 10 that.
- 11 COMMITTEE MEMBER LAIRD: And so if 34 percent
- 12 withdrew, that just means off the top 34 percent of the
- 13 grants came back?
- MS. LUNA: Correct.
- 15 COMMITTEE MEMBER LAIRD: And then on top of that
- 16 for the 66 percent that didn't withdraw, did money come
- 17 back at the end of the cycle?
- MS. LUNA: For some, small amounts were
- 19 disencumbered, because a lot of times they'll go out to
- 20 bid and find a product that costs a little less. So they
- 21 didn't need to use all the funds, because we do only
- 22 reimburse what was actually paid for. So in small
- 23 amounts, we do end up disencumbering, and other times the
- 24 full grant is utilized.
- 25 COMMITTEE MEMBER LAIRD: In your view, it's not

- 1 really significant?
- 2 MS. LUNA: For those that were able to do
- 3 projects, no, it's not significant.
- 4 COMMITTEE MEMBER LAIRD: The real significant
- 5 thing is the people that withdrew?
- 6 MS. LUNA: Correct.
- 7 COMMITTEE MEMBER LAIRD: Is there anything that
- 8 we can do about that, or is it basically if they're not
- 9 going to put up their share, they're not going to put up
- 10 their share and that's just where it is?
- 11 SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM DIRECTOR LEVENSON: This
- 12 is an issue that we've had with a number of grant programs
- 13 where we have people who are unable to fulfill the
- 14 obligations in the grant for one reason or another.
- 15 It's tough, because they're submitting the
- 16 application on the basis that they have the resources and
- 17 the funding coming. And if something happens with their
- 18 own budget cycle or for some reason -- it could be a
- 19 contractual issue that they're not able to resolve with
- 20 their local contractors, and so we can't really anticipate
- 21 that very easily.
- 22 COMMITTEE MEMBER LAIRD: Except given the current
- 23 budget meltdown, we can expect that number to go up
- 24 significantly.
- 25 And then if you move on to the next question

- 1 after that, if we are subscribing a fully operating grant
- 2 system and 34 percent is coming back and we're telling all
- 3 these people no that might be prepared to go, we just got
- 4 this money out there that's afloat while we're telling
- 5 people no. Is there a way we might -- and I know on
- 6 Monday, different program, same concept, we sort of talked
- 7 about it. And Mark said he would kick it around and get
- 8 back to us. Is there a similar discussion that's worth
- 9 having with this program?
- 10 SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM DIRECTOR LEVENSON: I'm
- 11 sure Mark will kick it around.
- 12 No. I think we can certainly have that. One of
- 13 the problems, of course, is that the grant is a several
- 14 year grant. So we don't know often until near the end the
- 15 moneys are actually not going to be used. Might be
- 16 halfway through the cycle or at the end. So we don't have
- 17 those moneys available up front to be able to cover some
- 18 of the unfunded applications.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: How many years is this grant?
- 20 Three?
- 21 BRANCH MANAGER WILLD-WAGNER: Three-year cycle.
- MS. LUNA: No. About two.
- 23 BRANCH MANAGER WILLD-WAGNER: About two by the
- 24 time we get the agreements out.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: So following onto John's

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1 question, or piggybacking on that line of thinking, of the

- 2 33 percent, which we all know 33 percent of \$4 1/2 million
- 3 which was what was funded last year and the year before or
- 4 in that ballpark is a significant amount of money.
- 5 So following that line of thinking, how many of
- 6 those 33 percent opted out in enough time that we could
- 7 have -- had we had a List C that was a provisional if
- 8 funds were returned during the contract period, maybe
- 9 given it to other applicant on another list?
- 10 BRANCH MANAGER WILLD-WAGNER: In that case, we
- 11 would not have been able to, because the funds have to be
- 12 encumbered before June 1st of the year of the fiscal --
- 13 June 30th before the fiscal year of the appropriation.
- 14 So that's not going to be a direct, unless they
- 15 pulled out in September or something. Then it can be
- 16 reappropriated. But money at the end that's reverted and
- 17 comes back in would have to be put in the pot for
- 18 reallocation or reappropriation.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: So then if we funded in July
- 20 of this year, we have until June of next year for
- 21 applicants to pull out to reencumber the funds for another
- 22 list of people?
- 23 COMMITTEE MEMBER LAIRD: But I think what I'm
- 24 also hearing, it will take a while to get the contracts
- 25 out, it's two years, that we might not be able to

- 1 ascertain much by that period.
- 2 BRANCH MANAGER WILLD-WAGNER: For grants that
- 3 were put into a contract already, it can be two years
- 4 before we know whether or not the funds have been
- 5 expended. Sometimes we'd know within a year if they
- 6 simply can't get the site or if their budget situation is
- 7 such they can't put up the funding for the labor costs,
- 8 the matching funds.
- 9 But in the case you described, Chair Brown, for
- 10 fiscal year 09-10 moneys, if we allocated that and put it
- 11 into an agreement in July and they decided to withdraw in
- 12 October, November, we could do an additional allocation
- 13 item to award additional grants with whatever money has
- 14 come back.
- 15 COMMITTEE MEMBER LAIRD: I think that's a great
- 16 suggestion and that is one way that probably seems to
- 17 work.
- 18 But I understand that it doesn't totally solve
- 19 the problem and that there's really some conflicting
- 20 values. It's like, how do you legally encumber more than
- 21 the amount of money available to get to the total? You
- 22 can't, unless you can figure something out.
- 23 And I heard clearly on Monday the other concept
- 24 the fear that what if everybody actually spent? We know
- 25 that's not going to happen. But, yet, that is a

- 1 legitimate concern.
- 2 And so the question is, is just how can you
- 3 balance all these things and try to figure out a way that
- 4 we get the money out the door to people that will really
- 5 use it?
- 6 And we're not going to solve it right now, right
- 7 here. But I think we're just identifying it as a Board
- 8 concern and hope that you can maybe figure out a way to
- 9 address it.
- 10 SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM DIRECTOR LEVENSON: One
- 11 thing that I do want to mention is, as you know, since we
- 12 had the reorganization, we've had a lot of staff turnover.
- 13 And we basically have been trying to get grants taken care
- 14 of and get the moneys out the door and make sure
- 15 everything is done legally.
- One thing we're hoping is that if you did agree
- 17 with this longer term proposal to fund some of these
- 18 eligible applicants this year with the 09-10 moneys and
- 19 have not a cycle next year, we could spend more time going
- 20 back and looking at grant performance, looking at criteria
- 21 and the issues that you're raising, Member Laird. Is
- 22 there something we can suggest when you are setting up the
- 23 grant cycle that would allow us to address this issue of
- 24 potentially reversion of funds? Maybe we need to make the
- 25 eligibility criteria tighter. Maybe people have to have

- 1 some more definitive budgetary appropriations ahead of
- 2 time so we know they are going to have this.
- 3 But one of our problems is we have a lot of
- 4 school districts who do fundraising throughout this year.
- 5 If they make their fundraising, then they keep the grant.
- 6 If they don't, then they withdraw later on. So as you
- 7 say, there are conflicting values here.
- 8 COMMITTEE MEMBER LAIRD: You see, one last thing.
- 9 That on Monday when we were having this discussion on a
- 10 different subject, it didn't get said, but I felt like
- 11 part of it was that we had so many strings on that
- 12 particular program that people weren't going to use it and
- 13 the money was going to come back.
- 14 And so the question with that one, and not
- 15 necessarily with this one, but might raise its head, is do
- 16 we need to look back and re-examine the conditions we're
- 17 putting on these to make sure that while they protect us,
- 18 if with the economic meltdown 50 percent of the money
- 19 comes back, not able to be used because of the way we
- 20 structure it, should we be rethinking how we restructure
- 21 it?
- 22 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: I agree. Good suggestion.
- 23 I'm sure we'll look at that as we move forward.
- We do have two speakers. Did you have any
- 25 questions first?

1 BOARD MEMBER MULÉ: Just a comment. Thank you,

- 2 Chair Brown.
- I just want to, again, following up on John's
- 4 comments. We had a similar discussion on Monday. And so
- 5 my question is can we look at increasing the expenditure
- 6 authority? Because again this grant program, as in the
- 7 other grant program, there seems to be a history of
- 8 oversubscribed applicants.
- 9 So again, we have those funds available. And my
- 10 feeling is that we should look at this oversubscription of
- 11 this grant program and others and then figure out how much
- 12 additional expenditure authority we would need in order to
- 13 cover those.
- 14 And then also take into account the suggestions
- 15 of Chair Brown and Member Laird, because I think again
- 16 there's so many different issues or obstacles, if you
- 17 will, for us in getting these moneys out to where they
- 18 belong, where they're needed. I mean, that's the purpose
- 19 of these funds. So let's figure out a way to get them out
- 20 there and get them on the street and get them so that
- 21 we're utilizing the funds the way they need to be
- 22 utilized.
- Thank you.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: One other concern, and I
- 25 started to raise it. On the 23 disqualified applicants,

- 1 if we are to consider in May or July funding 09-10, I
- 2 think we need to notify those applicants, give them a
- 3 second shot to complete their application, and let them
- 4 know that this is for the 09-10 process, because I'm not
- 5 comfortable expending all this money when we had 23
- 6 applicants that were disqualified. If we give them until
- 7 May 1st or something -- and I know that's probably going
- 8 to go to Elliot because it's NOFA or some other
- 9 requirement.
- 10 But if we're going to expend funds even -- and I
- 11 understand we may not have the money -- but notify they
- 12 would be considered in a reallocation next spring for tire
- 13 money if they can complete their application by this time
- 14 frame, because we haven't notified anybody that we're
- 15 considering 09-10 money. And there could be other school
- 16 districts that were considering or other projects were
- 17 considering applications in 09-10, because they didn't
- 18 have the money this fiscal year. Because I know my
- 19 jurisdiction, Sacramento, is \$55 million in the hole. So
- 20 I'm surprised they're on the list. But there may be other
- 21 jurisdictions that didn't apply.
- 22 And I do have a very strong concern we're going
- 23 to encumber 09-10 money without notifying jurisdictions
- 24 that that is our intent.
- 25 MS. LUNA: I would just like to note that out of

- 1 the 23 applicants that were disqualified, only 14 of those
- 2 were for incomplete. The other ones were ineligible
- 3 applicants or their project wasn't eligible. So they
- 4 wouldn't be able to re-apply next year.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: That's completely different.
- 6 COMMITTEE MEMBER MIGDEN: Madam Chair, may I
- 7 amplify on that, because that's partially -- I would like
- 8 to know -- and I'm satisfied if Ms. Willd-Wagner says that
- 9 there's a line. And you can call it what you will. I
- 10 still would like to clarify that central valley is
- 11 different. So in other words, I'm not uncomfortable with
- 12 a prescribed distribution.
- So I would like to know how would I, as a member,
- 14 effectuate a discussion or a change that calls it what it
- 15 is? Is that -- who can answer my question?
- 16 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: I can. We will bring it to
- 17 the Policy Committee for a discussion, and we can make the
- 18 determination anywhere we want.
- 19 COMMITTEE MEMBER MIGDEN: Excellent. So, Madam
- 20 Chair, that will be calendared.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: Yes.
- 22 COMMITTEE MEMBER MIGDEN: The second part had to
- 23 do with looking at the geography of where the grants have
- 24 gone. And I would like to know that.
- In other words, I am prepared to approve what

- 1 we're being asked to approve today procedurally with
- 2 regard to whether we call it another year cycle or goes in
- 3 July or something. I'm not as swift in my understanding
- 4 of those time cycles. But what it would, in effect, do
- 5 for my comfort level is to know that two-thirds from one
- 6 fashion to another is still going to be there in the
- 7 offering. And therefore we can satisfy this issue.
- 8 Some may be because of bad applications. Some
- 9 may be that there are no applications. Some may be that
- 10 some perform very well and we ought to applaud the
- 11 initiative. And may be therefore then -- what we don't
- 12 understand here is what goes into those choices. How come
- 13 one did better than the other?
- 14 And I know there is a written application that's
- 15 certainly strict and then there's all these nuances that
- 16 have to do with grant selections from a larger view. And,
- 17 Howard, we may not -- and this may be a fallacy -- that we
- 18 give a narrow linear assignment which everyone is
- 19 dutifully doing. And I say let's have some zoom
- 20 back-pacity to evaluate or know where we're reaching or
- 21 not. Or, you know, Mr. Director in five, ten years
- 22 Imperial County, they don't do anything. And over the
- 23 next five years, we're going to make sure we send some
- 24 delegates down there. At least see what's going on. And
- 25 if we can perform that function, whether it's the city,

- 1 whether it's awareness, whether it's cutbacks, whether
- 2 someone went on vacation.
- 3 So again, I'm not contesting the validity of the
- 4 rejections. I think it would be good to know. But maybe
- 5 that same -- Madam Chair, with your permission, that same
- 6 outreach could be you did an application that fell short
- 7 or you didn't do an application, and how come? And you
- 8 ought to.
- 9 And how does that -- Mark, how does that second
- 10 part get looked at before we commit to the other two and
- 11 the two that we know are coming quite apart from today?
- 12 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LEARY: If I'm understanding
- 13 you right, Member Migden, I think you're looking for some
- 14 evaluation of our outreach efforts. I mean, are we
- 15 reaching the stakeholders we need to reach? And if not,
- 16 why not? And how can we improve?
- 17 And as Howard suggested, we have a lot of
- 18 resources tied up in simply delivering our grant programs
- 19 and managing them. And we've had this conversation even
- 20 through the strategic directives and the governance
- 21 policies about a program evaluation function that we need
- 22 to make more robust in this organization. And because of
- 23 inadequate resources, we haven't done it as well as I'd
- 24 like to do it for the Board.
- 25 But I think that would speak to the effort that

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1 you're suggesting we do is evaluate our outreach efforts

2 and identify, as you suggest, why jurisdictions, potential

- 3 applicants, are not applying and get an understanding of
- 4 why that's true. Is it because they're not hearing about
- 5 it?
- I think my sense of it, having been around here
- 7 for a while, we have greatly improved in our outreach
- 8 effort and the jurisdictions or potential applicants being
- 9 aware of those programs. We can't solve their problem if
- 10 they don't have the ability to apply. They know about it.
- 11 But for one reason or another, they don't have the
- 12 resources. But we can get a better handle on that for you
- 13 through --
- 14 COMMITTEE MEMBER MIGDEN: I want to say you do
- 15 beautifully. And I understand the mission is execution.
- 16 I'm not saying we're hiring an outside agency and getting
- 17 a lot of money and take a look with pinpoints.
- 18 I guess it's even an impression how in the past
- 19 five years -- the program has been around eight years. We
- 20 can do a little computer run or something and say -- so in
- 21 other words, that's all I'm saying, because I don't want
- 22 to misdirect resources. And I don't want to create
- 23 burdens.
- I also want to say good job on this. No one ever
- 25 says that part. They come in with complaints. And I know

- 1 I had one.
- 2 Let me just say, lastly, if I might, Madam Chair.
- 3 So all I want to know, Mark, at this juncture is if
- 4 there's an aye vote on \$2 million going out the door and
- 5 we believe there will be cycles that will amount to two
- 6 and two more, whether it's one cycle and no blank next
- 7 year, or two cycles, will we have an opportunity? I want
- 8 to look at that befor a second commitment is made. And
- 9 that's what I wanted to establish.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: And we won't be considering
- 11 it until at least April, possibly May. So between now and
- 12 then, and if you can provide it by Tuesday, can you do as
- 13 Member Laird had requested, a county list? I think it
- 14 would be more helpful to understand county by county
- 15 possibly over the last three cycles what has been funded
- 16 by county. The number of grants, and the amount of money
- 17 that's been funded to each of the counties would probably
- 18 be helpful. Would that suffice? And we can distribute
- 19 that information so we can have a better look. If we get
- 20 it ahead of time, if there's further analysis we want to
- 21 in order to make that second and third funding cycle, we
- 22 can do that.
- 23 COMMITTEE MEMBER MIGDEN: Madam Chair, if it
- 24 isn't, I would say fine, I'll go with this and we can do
- 25 it next month, in other words.

- 1 And I'd like on the same thing to just say here's
- 2 where we've never reached at all for whatever reasons, if
- 3 I could have that.
- 4 SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM DIRECTOR LEVENSON: We had
- 5 already had a side bar conversation. We can provide that
- 6 before the Board meeting and what areas have been missing.
- 7 You'll be able to see that.
- 8 I just want to make one comment on the outreach
- 9 portion to follow on what Mark said. We've had other
- 10 grant programs that have typically been undersubscribed,
- 11 particularly the recycled asphalt concrete grants in the
- 12 past years were undersubscribed. So we did do a much more
- 13 focused outreach on those in order to get more applicants
- 14 in.
- 15 And this year, we're in the same situation with
- 16 the RAC grants that we are with these tire-derived product
- 17 grants in terms of oversubscription. Way oversubscribed.
- 18 So we have the same issues we're going to bring to you
- 19 next month, which is why we wanted to start this
- 20 discussion today about how do we handle this.
- 21 With the tire-derived product grants, this
- 22 program, it has historically been oversubscribed. So we
- 23 have not frankly devoted that much in terms of outreach.
- 24 Although clearly we need to do some analysis of what's
- 25 been done in the past and where we're missing areas and so

- 1 on. There's never really been an issue that we needed to
- 2 do more outreach to get a sufficient number of applicants.
- 3 So there are different nuances in these programs.
- 4 COMMITTEE MEMBER LAIRD: Just a very quick
- 5 comment. First, I want to object to something Ms. Migden
- 6 said, because she said she was not swift. And that's not
- 7 true. My hand instinctively went to my wallet when she
- 8 said she was not swift. And I just want to object to
- 9 that.
- 10 But secondly, I just want to thank you for
- 11 bearing with us on this, because it's got to be a little
- 12 dislocating to have new Board members that really want to
- 13 take a look at things that you've been working with for a
- 14 while and ask questions that are probably verging on being
- 15 irritating. And I just want to acknowledge it and just
- 16 say, you know, we appreciate what you do and we recognize
- 17 the great work that's been done. And this is just a
- 18 process that will go on. And nobody should misread it in
- 19 any way. And just sort of be clear about that.
- 20 So thank you.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: Thank you, John.
- 22 Do our speakers still want to speak? I typically
- 23 have the speakers come first, but we had so many
- 24 questions. I'll ask our speakers now.
- 25 Terry Leveille.

1 MR. LEVEILLE: Thank you, Madam Chair and

- 2 Committee members, Board members.
- 3 Terry Leveille, TL & Associates.
- 4 I, too, want to -- actually, I long for the good
- 5 ol' days when you had competitive grants and each city and
- 6 county had to write an essay as to why they needed this
- 7 grant and how many tires they were going to use in this
- 8 grant.
- 9 And I used to collect a lot of money writing
- 10 grants for them. And those wealthy communities that could
- 11 afford grant writers or could afford to contract with
- 12 people like me would get the grants.
- 13 And about five years ago, the Board changed its
- 14 policy, made this easy little checklist. And I get six
- 15 calls a cycle I should say from cities and counties asking
- 16 about these grants. And I said, look, you can do these
- 17 yourself. It's an easy checklist. Just make sure you get
- 18 the certification from your city council, your board of
- 19 supervisors, your school district, your school board.
- 20 They're not competitive anymore.
- 21 And it is a very, very easy. They changed it so
- 22 much, and much to my chagrin.
- But never the less, it is a very workable, easy
- 24 document. And there should be no excuse for even the
- 25 smallest communities to not be able to fill out the

- 1 checklist.
- 2 That being said, I think that I don't have any
- 3 comments on stopping the cycle next year.
- 4 But I do want to reiterate something I said
- 5 during the Five-Year Plan discussion. And that had to do
- 6 with making sure that the products that these cities,
- 7 counties, school districts, agricultural districts use are
- 8 from California waste tires. There has been a big influx
- 9 of crumb rubber coming down from heavily subsidized
- 10 British Columbia. And they make it cheap up there and
- 11 they can transport it cheap enough that it competes on an
- 12 uneven scale with some of the crumb rubber processors here
- 13 in California.
- 14 And we've seen it. We had a discussion with Will
- 15 Kempton about some of the Caltrans projects. They don't
- 16 have to use California crumb rubber, but they have to use
- 17 USA only crumb rubber.
- 18 As far as the Waste Board though, it does have to
- 19 use the California waste tire crumb rubber. And the only
- 20 place that I've seen it come up has been in some of the
- 21 synthetic sport surfacing. And I notice there was about
- 22 six or so projects that are being proposed using that.
- 23 And I would hope that the staff would at least maybe take
- 24 a look at those particular projects to ensure that before
- 25 the cities or the school districts, the counties, use this

- 1 or purchase this, that they make sure that it is from
- 2 California crumb rubber.
- 3 That's all. Thank you.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: Thank you, Terry.
- 5 It is a requirement of the program. But it's a
- 6 good additional reminder to jurisdictions that if they
- 7 missed that line in the application, they will only be
- 8 reimbursed and their grant is only for California tires.
- 9 So --
- 10 MS. LUNA: With their payment requests, we
- 11 require a certification form that's signed by the vendor
- 12 that the product that was provided was using 100 percent
- 13 California tires.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: I understand that. But I
- 15 think Terry's concern is that people are going to go ahead
- 16 and contract with somebody for not California and mea
- 17 culpa later and try to get reimbursed. We won't reimburse
- 18 them, but we're out utilization of those funds. We are
- 19 out the utilization of that grant. And the California
- 20 rubber hasn't been used.
- 21 So I think the point that he's trying to make is
- 22 when we do encumber the funds, we reiterate the fact it is
- 23 required they use California rubber for distribution. And
- 24 we know there isn't an influx of British Columbia and
- 25 other states to be cautious when they contract with their

- 1 contractor. That's all.
- 2 Michael.
- 3 MR. BLUMENTHAL: Thank you, Madam Chair. My name
- 4 is Michael Blumenthal. I'm the Vice President of the
- 5 Rubber Manufacturers Association. RMA represents eight
- 6 US-based tire manufacturers.
- 7 Just before I get to my comments I had written
- 8 down, one of the things about the ground rubber situation
- 9 here in California, my understanding is it works basically
- 10 like this. The ground rubber produced in state goes to
- 11 the Waste Board grant projects. A lot of the rubber
- 12 that's used on the roads from Caltrans either comes in
- 13 from Utah or comes in from Arizona. And the rubber from
- 14 BC, who no longer has a policy to market their products
- 15 down here, is picked up by the entrepreneurs here in
- 16 California to feed the demand for non-grant, non-Caltrans
- 17 projects, because all the other rubber in California is
- 18 going either to the Caltrans projects or to the grant
- 19 projects. So it does work out.
- 20 And I am not sure -- I can't put my hand on a
- 21 Bible and swear no out-of-state rubber goes into any of
- 22 the grant projects. But I think everybody is aware of the
- 23 penalties that would be involved in this. And they are
- 24 aware of the difficulties that would ensue if they did not
- 25 use California-generated rubber.

- 1 I think the market has figured out how to
- 2 manipulate so that you are being served by California
- 3 rubber in grant projects. But the marketplace does still
- 4 work and the entrepreneurs here in California recognize if
- 5 they can buy less expensive than they can make it
- 6 themselves, they're going to go ahead and do that.
- 7 To my comments.
- 8 Number one, I'd like to find out if I can get a
- 9 copy of the first few slides. I think that's the kind of
- 10 information --
- 11 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: Presentation is on the web.
- MR. BLUMENTHAL: That's the kind of information
- 13 that we've been talking about for a number of years
- 14 showing that not so much the grants, per se, but the value
- 15 of the rubber-derived products have value and they work,
- 16 that there are no problems with it. That's the kind of
- 17 testimony that I think carry a lot more weight and are
- 18 more beneficial for the long-term survivability of this
- 19 market than a direct grant. And I'll go on the web and
- 20 get that and use that.
- 21 That's the kind of information this organization
- 22 should be getting out as part of the package anyway as
- 23 part of the marketing of tire-derived products, because at
- 24 some point in time, these grants will be going away. And
- 25 if everybody gets used to only buying the rubber or only

- 1 buying the services when the grants are available in --
- 2 what -- 1215, 1214 -- 2014, somewhere around there, the
- 3 grant goes down. The amount of money you get will
- 4 decrease. The amount of money you have for grants will
- 5 decrease. And we don't want the shock to the system to
- 6 undue the positive work that's been done before.
- 7 So that kind of information is very positive.
- 8 One of the questions I have for staff is do you
- 9 keep track of the number of applicants that are first
- 10 timers, second timers, third timers? Is this in there?
- MS. LUNA: Yes, I do.
- MR. BLUMENTHAL: And can you give us an idea of
- 13 the percentage of second timers, third timers, in there?
- 14 At any rate, the basic point here is two-fold.
- 15 One, we are not real advocates of these grants.
- 16 We don't think that they are as effective for the
- 17 long-term stability of the marketplace. Obviously, in
- 18 these tough economic times, it's hard to argue against not
- 19 having them. And certainly we don't want to see them end
- 20 right this very moment. But weaning off of them I think
- 21 would be a good idea.
- 22 Some of the issues we want to raise -- number
- 23 one, to Board Member Migden's point, if you have some
- 24 applicants who have not applied before, may want to give
- 25 them some additional points. Those that have applied

- 1 before, second timers, third timers, we would suggest
- 2 decreasing the amount of money they get, because they
- 3 understand the value of these products and they know that
- 4 these things are good. They're safe. There aren't any
- 5 problems with them. You may want to consider giving them
- 6 less in the future, because you don't have to sell them.
- 7 They already know this stuff. And this starts this
- 8 weaning process away from just relying on grants to buy
- 9 these tire-derived products.
- 10 The other question I have is something that was
- 11 raised years past about the cost per tire. I want to know
- 12 if that is still being done. Realize it is a minimum of
- 13 2500 tires per project.
- 14 But is this a weighting system to look at the
- 15 overall cost per tire? I mean, that was something that
- 16 was talked about years ago. I'm not sure if that's still
- 17 in effect. I think that would help you get some more
- 18 efficiencies in the system and perhaps have more grants
- 19 for other applicants, especially those that haven't done
- 20 it in the past.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: I think it's part of the
- 22 formula. It's a minimum number of tires. It's a dollar
- 23 equivalence, five or seven dollars depending on whether
- 24 it's the first application, or second application, and how
- 25 many tires. There is a formula. You remember. I kind of

- 1 remember we did it last year at length.
- 2 MR. BLUMENTHAL: The point here is that as these
- 3 systems gain more efficiency, we would suggest reducing
- 4 the dollar per tire amount. Two reasons for this.
- 5 One, if they realize it is a good deal, a good
- 6 product, they would be more willing to spend their own
- 7 money on it.
- Number two, over time, you'll be having less
- 9 money for the grants and gets them into the process of
- 10 expecting less from these grants and having to apply more
- 11 of their own money for it. We think at some point in time
- 12 when the grant moneys do end, we want to see a
- 13 self-sustaining marketplace, not one that ends because the
- 14 grants are no longer there.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: Right. We do have this
- 16 discussion every year. And --
- 17 MR. BLUMENTHAL: Every year.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: I think when the program
- 19 started -- Howard, correct me if I'm wrong -- it was about
- 20 \$25 a tire. And three years ago, we ratcheted it down
- 21 significantly from 15 to 10, and now we're at a tiered
- 22 level of five and seven. So we've ratcheted it down
- 23 pretty significantly in order to accomplish what you're
- 24 suggesting, which is to try to wean these people off.
- 25 I think probably the economics right now are

- 1 getting more people to apply. But, you know, I mean, six
- 2 million is 30 percent higher than we even saw last year
- 3 when we were oversubscribed last year.
- 4 So I think we have a lot of projects on our
- 5 plate. And the need is there. And as former Member
- 6 Chesbro constantly drilled in our head, we got the money.
- 7 We want to get the money out. We want to stimulate the
- 8 market. We don't want to create a dependency. But we do
- 9 want to continue to get the money out the door.
- 10 MR. BLUMENTHAL: And I agree with that. But my
- 11 fear is there is a dependency for the grants. And, you
- 12 know, decreasing the amount of money for it and increasing
- 13 the focus on the first timers and getting more information
- 14 I think offsets some of the things here.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: Well, I think that's a great
- 16 suggestion to start looking at first time, second time
- 17 users as we do in the RAC grant program, where there is an
- 18 incentive for first-time users to go in and try it, and
- 19 whether it's extra points or extra money.
- 20 SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM DIRECTOR LEVENSON: Madam
- 21 Chair, as you know, every time we have a criteria item
- 22 where the Board sets the criteria for upcoming cycles, we
- 23 look at the dollar per tire amounts. You're absolutely
- 24 right. We've ratcheted it down. And certainly I
- 25 anticipate you'll have that discussion again.

- 1 That would be the time to look at whether you
- 2 want to establish preference for first time or at least
- 3 inexperienced users, like you say we have in the RAC
- 4 program.
- 5 So we'll note those down for the next time a
- 6 criteria item comes before the Board on this and include
- 7 those for your consideration.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: Is it something that can be
- 9 considered in the Five-Year Tire Plan to look at increased
- 10 appropriation to that line item in order to tier the
- 11 applicants for first time users and --
- 12 SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM DIRECTOR LEVENSON: The
- 13 Five-Year Tire Plan would not have that specificity. It
- 14 would be an overall amount for the tire-derived grant
- 15 program. You certainly can indicate your preference that
- 16 it go in that direction. We'd still have to bring a
- 17 formal criteria item to you with scoring and all of these
- 18 issues so you'd formally take it up later on.
- 19 MS. LUNA: Of the 91 applicants, 13 of those have
- 20 received TDP grant awards in the past.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: Good first-time user
- 22 percentage, wouldn't you say?
- MR. BLUMENTHAL: That is encouraging. Thank you
- 24 very much.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: Thank you as always, Michael.

- 1 Our last speaker is Cameron Wright.
- 2 MR. WRIGHT: Hi. Good morning. Cameron Wright,
- 3 West Coast Rubber Recycling located down in Hollister,
- 4 California.
- 5 And addressing Member Migden's -- when she
- 6 brought up the different counties of which haven't
- 7 participated or been part of the grant program before, I
- 8 think not only relying on staff, but relying on the
- 9 smaller companies to go out and market their products.
- 10 We're available here before you to work with you, to work
- 11 in any way we can to generate interest. Being involved in
- 12 the grant programs for a number of years, I'm pretty well
- 13 educated on how they work.
- 14 And as just pointed out, the number of new
- 15 grantees that we -- prospective grantees that we have,
- 16 thank you. Big part of that is a lot of my customers have
- 17 made that list. And it's going out and getting involved
- 18 with them and educating them and even in my own backyard,
- 19 so to speak, as well as surrounding areas.
- 20 But if there was areas in which you wish us to
- 21 concentrate on something like that, we would be by all
- 22 means willing to invest time, energy, money to go be out
- 23 there promoting those products.
- 24 It's a great program. Very encouraged by it. A
- 25 lot of good use for tires going out there for a super safe

- 1 product.
- Thank you again. Appreciate it.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: Thank you, Cameron. Got a
- 4 marketer.
- 5 Do we have any other questions, comments on this
- 6 item?
- We have some documents that are coming, but it
- 8 sounds to me, Member Migden, that we'll move forward on
- 9 this item for this \$2 million and then have forthcoming
- 10 information before we consider the reallocation and then
- 11 the '09 dollars well.
- 12 SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM DIRECTOR LEVENSON: The
- 13 only question I have is we will prepare information on the
- 14 geographic issues, the distribution of past grants. Would
- 15 you like that -- we can have that to you in the next
- 16 couple days for your use at the Board meeting. Or if this
- 17 is on consent, you just want to have it for next -- when
- 18 we come back in April?
- 19 COMMITTEE MEMBER MIGDEN: I think wait, because
- 20 you've flushed that out and we're approving this.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: Just get it to us prior to
- 22 the reallocation item coming to us.
- 23 COMMITTEE MEMBER LAIRD: Madam Chair, I'd move
- 24 Resolution 2009-42.
- 25 COMMITTEE MEMBER MIGDEN: Second.

49 1 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: It's been moved by member 2 Laird, seconded by Member Migden. 3 Kristen, can you call the roll? 4 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT GARNER: Laird? 5 COMMITTEE MEMBER LAIRD: Aye. 6 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT GARNER: Migden? COMMITTEE MEMBER MIGDEN: Aye. 8 EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT GARNER: Brown? 9 CHAIRPERSON BROWN: Aye. That resolution passes. And we will put it on 10 11 fiscal consent. 12 Great. That's it. And we're adjourned. 13 (Thereupon the California Integrated Waste 14 Management Market Development and Sustainability Committee adjourned at 11:09 a.m.) 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

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